

Message Text

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17-54

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 SCEM-02 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 INT-08

SS-15 NSC-10 DRC-01 /136 W

----- 024344

R 210807Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1029

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, BG

SUBJECT: PETROLEUM EXPLORATION

REF: (A) DACCA 3813; (B) DACCA 4056; (C) DACCA 4243 (SINGAPORE ONLY) (D) SINGAPORE 3685 (DACCA ONLY)

1. UPDATING REFS A AND B, EMBASSY WISHES PASS ON REPORT THAT OIL EXPLORATION PROPOSAL BEFORE BDG NOW ALLEGEDLY NARROWED FROM 14 TO 13 - SIX US, SIX CANADIAN, AND ONE FRENCH (CFP).

2. HEDAYAT AHMED, ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, MINISTRY NATURAL RESOURCES (WHO HAS REPLACED SLIGHTLY LOWER RANKING AHMED REZA AS MAIN FOCUS BDG ACTION), ADVISED SEPT 20 THAT FOLLOWING AMERICAN FIRMS TO APPEAR FOR FINAL NEGOTIATIONS IN MID-OCTOBER - ASHLAND, ATLANTIC RICHFIELD, OCCIDENTIAL AND UNION OIL OF CALIFORNIA. A NONGOVERNMENT SOURCE REPORTED SEEING TEXACO ON BDG LIST OF CANDIDATES IN LAST ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS; HITHERTO

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WE THOUGHT TEXACO INTERESTED ONLY IN EXPLORATION OFFSHORE

BURMA. WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO OTHER US COMPANY PROPOSALS (PARA 6, REF A) IS NOT KNOWN. BDG SOURCES HAVE BECOME VERY CLOSE-MOUTHED.

3. REQUEST DEPT OR SINGAPORE PASS FOLLOWING BASIC MESSAGE FROM HEDAYAT AHMED TO COMPANIES LISTED LAST PARA, WITH ADDITIONAL REMARKS AS THERE INDICATED: QUOTE PLEASE STAND IN READINESS FOR MESSAGE FROM MINISTRY TO APPEAR MID-OCTOBER FOR FINAL NEGOTIATIONS. PRECISE DATE WILL BE COMMUNICATED LATER. MAY, HOWEVER, HAVE TO GIVE VERY SHORT NOTICE. UNQUOTE.

4. ADD COMMENTS AS BELOW:

(A) ASHLAND EXPLORATION CO., HOUSTON - EARLIER MINISTRY CABLE SENT COMMERCIALY TO HOUSTON RETURNED UNDELIVERED AS ADDRESS INCORRECT. EMBASSY RECORDS HAVE FOR INTERNATIONAL DEPT., ASHLAND EXPLORATION: PO BOX 1503, HOUSTON 77701; TEL. (713) 225-5511 - J. H. BRINEMAN, CHIEF GEOLOGIST.

(B) ATLANTIC RICHFIELD, SINGAPORE - NO ANSWER RECEIVED TO EARLIER MINISTRY COMMERCIAL CABLE.

(C) OCCIDENTIAL, 5000 STOCKDALE HIGHWAY, BAKERSFIELD, CAL. - ADVISE C. JAMES BLOM, EXPLORATION MANAGER/EASTERN MEMISPHERE (TEL. (805) 327-7351; TELEX 682421) THAT REPLY TO EARLIER MINISTRY CABLE HAS BEEN RECEIVED.

(D) UNION OF CALIFORNIA, SINGAPORE - INFORM SCHWARTZ THAT DATE OCTOBER 1 UNFORTUNATELY NO LONGER ACCEPTABLE, CONTRARY TO INFORMATION TRANSMITTED BY EMBASSY FROM AHMED SEPT 19 (REF C). APPOINTMENT CANCELLED, PER AHMED COMMERCIAL TELEX (REF D).
NEWBERRY

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